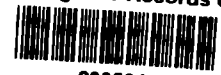


Trustees question landfill work

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



230504

Alvarez questions timeliness of complaints

By Perry Schaible

Pulse-Journal Reporter

The cleanup of Skinner Landfill is still shrouded by controversy, even after officials told West Chester Township trustees the project is almost 99 percent finished.

West Chester Township trustee Catherine Stoker questioned representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Dow Chemical, and Earth Tech about the cleanup process recently. She said she believes the effort is in violation of a federal consent decree, which outlines the terms of the cleanup.

Trustee president Jose Alvarez said he is upset that concerns regarding the cleanup of the 78-acre landfill have not been brought to the attention of the board prior to the meeting.

"Bringing in all these issues at the last minute is not an appropriate forum," Alvarez said about Stoker's concerns.

He said the first time problems with the cleanup were brought to his attention was at a February meeting, allegedly four months after

they were noticed.

"I think people have to focus on the fact that this area was open for 10 years with nothing over the top of it — at least now it is covered with some type of multi-layered covering," Alvarez said. "So it has to be better than it was."

Several residents have also questioned why Stoker did not bring the alleged problems to the attention of the cleanup officials previously.

Stoker said she talked to workmen at the site immediately about her concerns, but could not approach the other trustees because it would be in violation of the "sunshine law."

"I also thought it was important to have (project) representatives there when it was discussed," Stoker said.

Alvarez said in the near future he hopes to focus on making sure the water is going where it is supposed to, in collection trenches, and is being monitored.

Alvarez said he wanted some explanation from the EPA concerning photographs presented to the trustees at the meeting by resident Fred Carroll.

Carroll expressed concerns about the cleanup process to trustee Stoker who then went to the site on Sept. 25, the only time she visited the site during the construction of the cap.

At that time, Stoker said she witnessed many objectionable issues including the type of dirt being put on the top of the cap, which she said did not fit the federal consent decree, and at least a dozen or more rocks larger than 4 inches, all of which were supposed to be removed from the site prior to placing the cap on the land.

"That's not in compliance with what they were paid millions of dollars to do," Stoker said.

She said no one knows if the cap has been damaged at this

(Please see LANDFILL, Page A2)

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PULSE-JOURNAL

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Wednesday, March 13, 2002

Fred Carroll and his neighbors

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SENT BY VERNON HILLS. IL
Regiment. Jody served as a
MH-47E Fully Mission Qual-
ified Pilot in Command and
was deployed with his unit to
multiple locations across the
Pacific Command in Support
of Operation Enduring Free-
dom.

"As far as pilots, he was one
of the best of the best," Roger
said.

The Egnors attended a Feb.
26 memorial service for the

3-18-21 14:10
Service Medal, Army Com-
mandation Medal, Army
Achievement Medal, Army
Good Conduct Medal, Nation-
al Defense Service Medal,
Army Aviator Badge, and Air
Assault Badge.

"There are still husbands
and wives, sons and daugh-
ters over there we need to
keep praying for," Roger said.

The family will hold a
memorial service for Jody at

ROY E. WESTON-
which will benefit the youth
of the church and missionar-
ies. Donations may be sent to
the Jody L. Egnor Memorial
Fund at First National Bank
of Southwestern Ohio, 8211
Princeton-Glendale Road,
Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

"I don't ever want to let
Jody's memory go, he stood
for so much," Margaret said.
(Cox News Service con-
tributed to this report.)

LSEPA-Superfund 3-3

West Chester and
townships are two of the
growing communities in
and with this growth con-
cerns like drug and
abuse or domestic violence.

"As our community grows
do the concerns. When
and illegal drug usage spread
into the community threat
the health of our fam-
ilies to become an issue
and becomes a concern,"
said Chairperson
Schaefer.

Landfill

(Continued from Page A1)
point due to the rocks. Stok-
er also said she saw what
appeared to be water coming
from under the cap, bypass-
ing the trench, and going
directly into the east fork of
Mitt Creek.

Stoker said she would like
to determine what, if
any, violations have occurred
and mediate a way to fix the
violations.

"Perhaps they can put a cap
that meets the justification
from what the justice depart-
ment put out," Stoker said.

Alvarez does not believe the
solution is that easy. He said
he would like to continue to
receive information and then
come to some conclusion on
the project, but "the bottom
line is, it's not going to be
dug out."

Carroll, who visited the site
often while it was under con-
struction, said he took dozens
of photographs that portray
wrongdoing.

"They didn't do what they
were supposed to in the way
it was spelled out," Carroll
has said.

According to Alvarez, West
Chester Administrator Dave
Gully requested copies of
Carroll's photographs to clar-
ify what they are and when
they were taken. Alvarez also
said Gully plans to collect
information from West
Chester Assistant Fire Chief
Tony Goller, the on-site rep-
resentative for the township
during construction of the
cap.

Other township residents
also still have concerns. Citi-
zens Lobby for Environmen-
tal Action Now vice president
Beth Hauer said she plans to
file written complaints with
the Ohio and U.S. EPA as
well as the Justice Depart-
ment.

"I'm going to complain to
everybody I can think of. This
is ridiculous," Hauer said. "I
want them to fix this. I want

them to do what the court
order says."

Hauer said she believes the
site, at the intersection of
Interstate 75 and Cincinnati-
Dayton Road, should be
locked immediately.

"I think a thorough investi-
gation needs to be done on
what is exactly in the site,"
Hauer said.

The controversial site is
still owned by the Skinner
family, but is under the juris-
diction of the EPA, according
to Alvarez. The EPA closed
the site due to contamination
in 1990.

The estimated \$11 million
cleanup cost will be paid by
potentially responsible par-
ties for the contamination.
The group consists of 18 main
companies with 48 additional
companies and five munic-
ipalities paying smaller por-
tions.

Dance to

By Penny Schaeble

Pulse Journal 1

A benefit dance is being
to help offset the medical
for an 18-month-old
Chester girl.

Brooke Akers has a
condition which requires
going therapy sessions to
eventually force her to
pediatric wheelchair,
other medical needs.

Akers, the daughter of
and Ginger Akers, has a
known as Spinal Muscu-
lar Type II SMA is a
disease of the anterior horn
located in the spinal cord
causes weakness of the
in Akers' legs and trunk
venting her from being
walk or crawl.

A fundraising dance

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